

Conference information

VENUE

The conference is based in University College Cork, with all talks taking place in the Brookfield Complex. The poster session will also take place in this venue (upstairs). The welcome reception will take place in the *Aula Maxima* room (The Great Hall) of the Quadrangle Building. See map previous page.

CONFERENCE DINNER

The conference dinner (and celebration) will take place in the Kingsley Hotel from 7 pm on Thursday 2nd July. Tickets for the dinner must have been purchased in advance during registration. We very much look forward to seeing you at the conference dinner. The dinner will be a buffet style BBQ.



Maude Delap was a self-taught Irish marine biologist that carried out pioneering research on jellyfish in the late 1800s & early 1900s. She cultured *Chrysaora hysoscella* and *Pelagia noctiluca* in her house to work out their life cycle. For more info: <https://www.discoveriveragh.ie/initiatives/finding-maude-delap>

STUDENT PRIZES

There will be 5 prizes for the best oral presentations and 5 prizes for the best poster presentations.

SOCIAL MEDIA

We encourage you to share your thoughts, experiences, photos, questions and selfies over the week using

<https://www.instagram.com/jbs8.cork/#>

<https://www.facebook.com/p/8th-Jellyfish-Bloom-Symposium-61583962120251/>

Day 1 | Monday 29th June 2026

18:30 – 21:00 | WELCOME RECEPTION

Opening with traditional Irish music and dancers and general welcome by the Organising Committee. Food (hot and cold canapes) and drinks (red and white wine) will be served. The reception will take place in the *Aula Maxima* room - The Great Hall of the Quadrangle Building in UCC. (See map previous page).

PLENARY TALK

Reimagining Medusa: Myth, Metaphor, and the Role in Marine Systems - Prof. Alenka Malej, National Institute of Biology, Slovenia

Socialising with traditional music playing in the background



Day 2 | Tuesday 30th June 2026

08:00 – 09:00 | **WELCOME DESK**

09:00 – 09:30 | **PLENARY:**

Changing the narrative around gelatinous zooplankton population trends

Prof. Kylie Pitt, Griffith University, Australia

09:30 – 13:00 | **Session 1:**

Population dynamics including life histories and polyp biology

1 09:30 – 09:40 | **PAKHOMOV:**

Year-round reproduction and overwintering in *Salpa thompsoni* south of the Antarctic Polar Front

2 09:40 – 09:50 | **MUELLER:**

Overlapping sexual reproduction accelerates bloom formation in salps

3 09:50 – 10:00 | **DA SILVA-RODRIGUES:**

Oceanographic drivers and phytoplankton size structure shape thaliacean assemblages (Chordata, Thaliacea) in oceanic areas of the subtropical Southwestern Atlantic (22°S–33°S)

4 10:00 – 10:10 | **LING:**

Environmental drivers of jellyfish community patterns in the Singapore and Johor Straits

5 10:10 – 10:20 | **DONG:**

Blooming potential base on spatiotemporal distributional pattern and the contribution of sexual and asexual reproduction of the giant jellyfish *Nemopilema nomurai* in Bohai Sea

6 10:20 – 10:30 | **MALONEY:**

Strobilation after 10 years: uncovering the process initiating jellyfish metamorphosis from polyp to ephyra

10:30 – 11:00 **BREAK:** Tea and coffee

7 11:00 – 11:10 | **VICENTE-RÍOS:**

Life history of the thermophilic hydroid *Pennaria disticha* Goldfuss, 1820 (Cnidaria, Hydrozoa) in a Mediterranean coastal lagoon as a model scenario for global warming scenario

8 11:10 – 11:20 | **ANGEL:**

Statoliths of *Rhopilema nomadica* and estimation of medusan age

9 11:20 – 11:30 | **DROR:**

Chemical and physical interactions affecting swarm formation and coherence in the jellyfish *Rhopilema nomadica*

10 11:30 – 11:40 | **SUZUKI:**

Long-term population dynamics of *Aurelia coerulea* in Maizuru Bay: year-round persistence, collapse, and recovery

11 11:40 – 11:50 | **BRANDWOOD:**

Untangling and describing the life cycles of *Chrysaora quinquecirrha* and *Chrysaora chesapeakei*

12 11:50 – 12:00 | **BOLOGNA:**

Who needs sex? Clonal pathways in the clinging jellyfish, *Gonionemus vertens*

12:00 – 12:10 | **MINI BREAK**

13 12:10 – 12:20 | **SUN:**

The regulating role of benthic ecosystems in jellyfish outbreaks

14 12:20 – 12:30 | **MEFFRE:**

Divergent developmental strategies in jellyfish polyps exposed to seasonal temperature variability and marine heatwaves

15 12:30 – 12:40 | **GESON:**

Asexual reproduction and survival of *Aurelia* sp. polyps from the Philippines across a tropical thermal range

Day 2 continued

16 12:40 – 12:50 | TAKAUCHI:

Environmental adaptation and population formation history of *Aurelia coerulea* that produce large planulae

17 12:50 – 13:00 | GIMENEZ:

Caught in a risky choice: predator cues deter larval settlement in *Aurelia coerulea*

13:00 – 14:00 | LUNCH

14:00 – 16:20 | Session 2:

Gelatinous zooplankton in changing oceans

18 14:00 – 14:10 | GUY-HAIM:

Invasional meltdown: Invasive jellyfish may facilitate non-indigenous fish dominance

19 14:10 – 14:20 | TIRELLI:

Blooming in a new garden: the case of *Mnemiopsis* in the Northernmost Mediterranean lagoon.

20 14:20 – 14:30 | COLLAZO PAGÁN:

Jellyfish bloom events in the northern Gulf of Mexico: Hypoxia drivers under climate change

21 14:30 – 14:40 | ESKE:

Zooplankton distribution in a seasonal oxycline: Do certain hydromedusae fare better in hypoxia?

22 14:40 – 14:50 | VERHAEGEN:

The Pacific Gateway Paradox: Biogeographical contraction and niche restriction of Arctic soft-bodied zooplankton

14:50 – 15:20 | BREAK: Tea and coffee

23 15:20 – 15:30 | DETSCH:

16 years of Arctic gelatinous zooplankton seasonality

24 15:30 – 15:40 | IVÁN BARAGAÑO:

Seasonal and latitudinal dynamics of neuston in the Northeast Atlantic (2014-2025)

25 15:40 – 15:50 | SALVANES:

Periphylla periphylla in the mesopelagic ecosystem of deep west Norwegian fjords

26 15:50 – 16:00 | HOUGHTON:

From echoes to isotopes: Jellyfish and predators in the mesopelagic

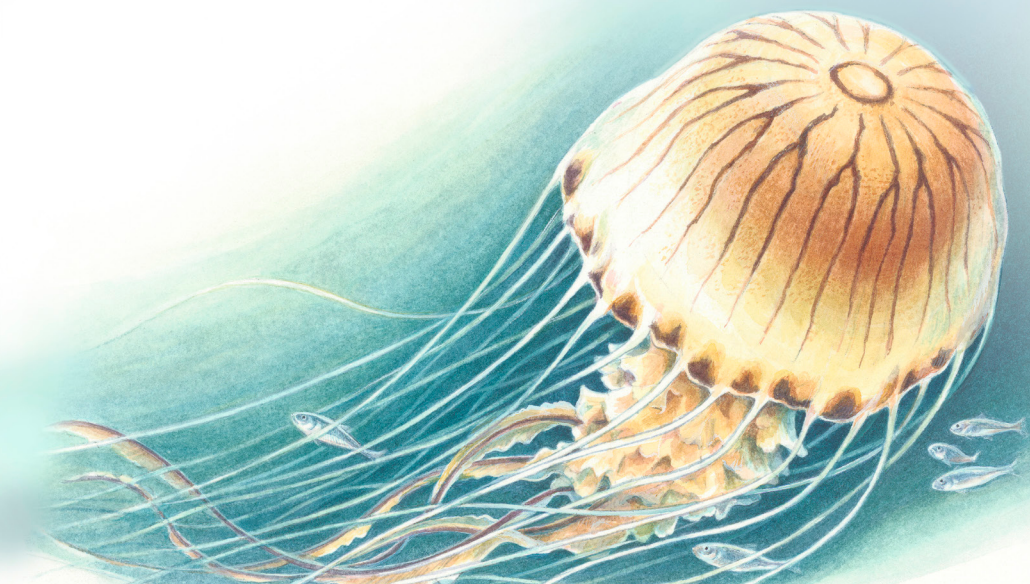
27 16:00 – 16:10 | FERNÁNDEZ-ALÍAS:

Revisiting scyphozoan jellyfish blooms: challenges and future of the topic

28 16:10 – 16:20 | FLEMING:

From nuisance to nexus: What twenty years of jellyfish research tells us and what it still can't

16:20 – 17:00 | DISCUSSION



Day 3 | Wednesday 1st July 2026

08:00 – 09:00 | WELCOME DESK

09:00 – 09:30 | **PLENARY:**

A decade of reference sequencing jellies

Prof. Aino Hosia, University of Bergen, Norway

09:30 – 13:00 | **Session 3:**

Advancements in studying biodiversity in all ecosystems and functional biology, using traditional and or molecular techniques

29 09:30 – 09:40 | **SOTO-ANGEL:**

Connecting life stages: revisiting life cycle, species diversity and phylogenetic position in understudied hydromedusae

30 09:40 – 09:50 | **FERNÁNDEZ-ZAPATA:**

Gelatinous zooplankton in oceanic regions of the Southeastern Pacific Ocean

31 09:50 – 10:00 | **EPINOUX:**

Structured reorganization of jellyfish communities: nestedness dominates assemblage shifts in a homogenizing Mediterranean Sea

32 10:00 – 10:10 | **TRABONI:**

Mediterranean gelatinous zooplankton: an updated snapshot of diversity, seasonality, and recent changes

33 10:10 – 10:20 | **TROCHANOWSKA:**

Blackwater diving illuminates biodiversity and ecology of siphonophores in the Gulf Stream

34 10:20 – 10:30 | **RAJ:**

Reevaluating bipolarity: *Dimophyes arctica* (Chun, 1897) as a case study

10:30 – 11:00 | **BREAK:** Tea and coffee

35 11:00 – 11:10 | **MAÑKO:**

Integrating mitogenomes, morphology, and ecology to resolve diversity in deep-sea *Bargmannia* siphonophores

36 11:10 – 11:20 | **IAKOVLEVA:**

Parasitism in gelatinous zooplankton across the Red Sea-Mediterranean region: first evidence and invasion-related patterns

37 11:20 – 11:30 | **NAGATSUKA:**

Simple population structure of *Aurelia* in oceanic island in contrast to higher diversity in island arc

38 11:30 – 11:40 | **SUN:**

Reproductive strategies and ecological adaptability of four scyphozoan species (*Rhopilema esculentum*, *Nemopilema nomurai*, *Aurelia coerulea* and *Cyanea nozakii*) in northern China

39 11:40 – 11:50 | **STRAEHLER-POHL:**

Chironex hemipristis sp. nov. (Cubomedusae, Chirodropida, Chirodropidae) and *Chiropsella bianchia* sp. nov. (Cubomedusae, Chirodropida, Chiropsellidae) - two new, supposedly dangerous box jellyfish from Mozambique waters as part of the cubozoan collection of IIOE-2

40 11:50 – 12:00 | **LICANDRO:**

The importance of gelatinous zooplankton in the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem (CCLME) trophic web

12:00 – 12:10 | **MINI BREAK**



Day 3 continued

12:10 – 13:00 | Session 4:

Applied jellyfish research, including human interactions techniques

41 12:10 – 12:20 | HALLAREN:

Key identifiable characters of pelagic hydrozoans affecting aquaculture in the northeastern Atlantic: implications for microscopy- and image-based monitoring

42 12:20 – 12:30 | MARTELL:

Challenges to finfish aquaculture from *Apolemia* and other hydromedusae and siphonophores in the Northeastern Atlantic Ocean

43 12:30 – 12:40 | KIM:

Development and achievement of precautionary management of jellyfish blooms in Korea

44 12:40 – 12:50 | VANG:

The GLOBECC Project: Jellyfish at a North Atlantic crossroad — Biodiversity baseline and reference database for Faroese waters

45 12:50 – 13:00 | FENG:

Photocatalytic degradation of jellyfish polyps: A sustainable approach to combat jellyfish blooms

13:00 – 14:00 | LUNCH



14:00 – 16:20 | Session 5: Advances in monitoring, modelling and prediction

46 14:00 – 14:10 | MA:

An integrated monitoring–forecasting–mitigation framework for hazardous jellyfish in China's coastal service zones

47 14:10 – 14:20 | PONZO:

Exploring *Rhizostoma pulmo* trajectories in a Mediterranean lagoon using electronic tagging

48 14:20 – 14:30 | LEÓN-COBO:

A modelling-based analysis of physical forcings influencing *Pelagia noctiluca* in the Balearic Archipelago

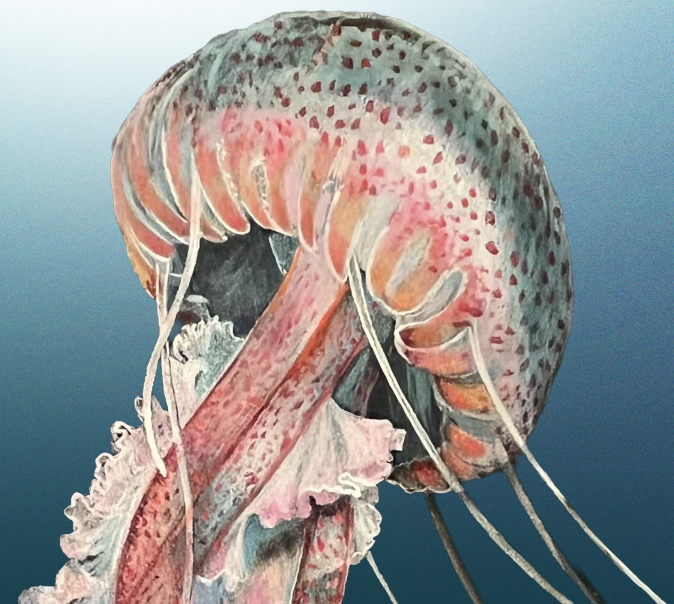
49 14:30 – 14:40 | CASTELBAJAC:

A flow map approach for visualizing uncertain jellyfish trajectories

50 14:40 – 14:50 | GUERCHON:

Testing behavioural plasticity of *Physalia utriculus* to key environmental drivers

14:50 – 15:20 | BREAK: Tea and coffee



Day 3 continued

51 15:20 – 15:30 | DECKER:

Tracing pathways: Understanding movement dynamics of the surface-dwelling siphonophore *Physalia physalis* in the northwest Atlantic Ocean

52 15:30 – 15:40 | ACUÑA-FERNÁNDEZ:

Physalia: A project on the evolution of biological sailing

53 15:40 – 15:50 | CAPEÁNS GARCÍA:

Environmental and geographic drivers of *Physalia physalis* strandings

54 15:50 – 16:00 | ÁLVAREZ-TRASOBARES:

Spatial and morphological drivers of *Physalia physalis* strandings on Spanish beaches

55 16:00 – 16:10 | PRIETO:

Atmospheric and oceanographic conditions during summer 2019 on the occurrence of Portuguese Man-o-War along the southern Iberian coasts

56 16:10 – 16:20 | PEREZ:

The dynamics of jellyfish swarms: from a Lagrangian to a mean-field kinetic model

16:20 – 16:30 MINI BREAK

57 16:30 – 16:40 | LEWIS AMES:

Introducing *Chironex blakangmati*, a new species of venomous box jellyfish from Singapore and the range extension of the Thai sea wasp *C. indrasaksajiae*

58 16:40 – 16:50 | VODOPIVEC:

PleagialBM: Uncovering the distribution of *Pelagia noctiluca* in the Mediterranean Sea with an individual-based model

59 16:50 – 17:00 | PERHARIČ BAILEY:

Coupling gelatinous zooplankton sinking speed to its surface-area based decay exposes overestimation in deep-sea particle-mediated carbon export

17:00 - 19:30 | POSTER SESSION

with finger food and wine



Day 4 | Thursday 2nd July 2026

08:00 – 09:00 | **WELCOME DESK**

09:00 – 09:30 | **PLENARY:**

Adrift on the high seas: the ecology and biology of cnidarians on the ocean's surface

Dr Rebecca Helm, Georgetown University, USA

09:30 – 13:00 | **Session 6:**

Role of gelatinous zooplankton in ecosystems, including trophic interactions, the biological carbon pump, and neuston

60 09:30 – 09:40 | **DALY YAHIA:**

Gelatinous zooplankton diversity, distribution patterns and ecological niches in Qatar's pelagic ecosystems

61 09:40 – 09:50 | **VON MONTFORT:**

Small jellyfish, large consequences: the overlooked predatory role of hydromedusae in subtropical estuarine ecosystems

62 09:50 – 10:00 | **CAILLIER:**

Feeding impacts and metabolic rates of the hydromedusae, *Bougainvillia carolinensis*, in the North Inlet Estuary

63 10:00 – 10:10 | **HUNT:**

Observation of unprecedented biomass of *Chrysaora melanaster* in the open ocean sub-Arctic northeast Pacific and its ecosystem effects

64 10:10 – 10:20 | **JORDANO:**

The role of epidermal cilia in fluid biomechanics and suspension feeding in scyphozoan medusae

65 10:20 – 10:30 | **FUMAROLA:**

Trophic role of the jellyfish *Rhizostoma pulmo* (Cnidaria: Scyphozoa) in the Gulf of Taranto (southern Italy)

10:30 – 11:00 | **BREAK** | Tea and coffee

66 11:00 – 11:10 | **VONDERBANK:**

Niche overlap of three sympatric jellyfish species in coastal Newfoundland, Canada

67 11:10 – 11:20 | **LINCOLN:**

Interactions between fishes and gelatinous zooplankton in the Irish Sea - exploring the "gingerbread house" hypothesis

68 11:20 – 11:30 | **CHI:**

Beyond quantity: Food quality links the causes and consequences of jellyfish blooms

69 11:30 – 11:40 | **ASHPEL MANO:**

Spatio-temporal assessment of jellyfish bloom assemblages and perception-based evaluation of gear-specific fisheries impacts along the Maharashtra coast, India

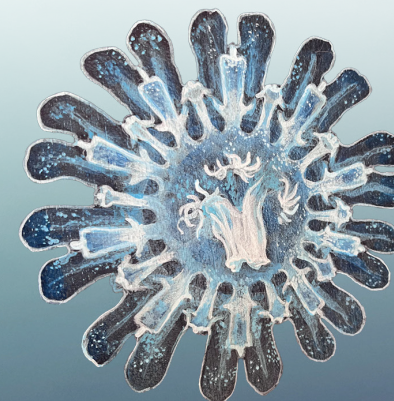
70 11:40 – 11:50 | **MOREJÓN-ARROJO:**

Jelly in the belly: A global network analysis of marine vertebrates as predators of gelatinous zooplankton

71 11:50 – 12:00 | **SCHAUB:**

Rapid gut evacuation offsets low nutritional content of jellyfish in medusivorous fish

12:00 – 12:10 | **MINI BREAK**



Day 4 continued

72 12:10 – 12:20 | MOTTA:

The Gulf of Trieste, a hotspot for gelatinous zooplankton and their digenean parasites?

73 12:20 – 12:30 | KOGOVSEK:

Metazoan associations of the invasive ctenophore *Mnemiopsis leidyi*: implication for reproduction and spillback potential

74 12:30 – 12:40 | YU:

Salinity and food selectivity regulate the survival and development of *Nemopilema nomurai* from fertilized eggs to polyps

75 12:40 – 12:50 | STEINWORTH:

Cellular immune responses at multiple scyphozoan life stages

76 12:50 – 13:00 | YANAGIHARA:

Beyond the Burn: identifying and resolving core controversies in jellyfish sting management

13:00 – 14:00 | LUNCH

14:00 – 16:20 | Session 7: General session

77 14:00 – 14:10 | IWANICKI:

Jelly or junk: neuston and sensory traps on the sea surface

78 14:10 – 14:20 | ZHANG:

Effects of temperature on the growth and biochemical composition of *Aurelia coerulea*

79 14:20 – 14:30 | BROTZ:

Jelly catches are fishy: Data gaps and imponderables in contemporary jellyfish fisheries

80 14:30 – 14:40 | MOSS:

Noncanonical structure of the adult *Mnemiopsis leidyi* tentacular apparatus

81 14:40 – 14:50 | BJÖRLING:

Who fried the cultured fish? Hidden diversity in Tubulariidae Goldfuss, 1818 (Hydrozoa) in Northeast Atlantic and Arctic waters

82 14:50 – 15:00 | AVIAN:

Rhizostomeae (Scyphozoa), a phylogenetic comparative analysis of their gastrovascular system

83 15:00 – 15:10 | GIBBONS:

Colonisation of Europe in the tailwinds of Mota, Magellan, Álvares, Fernandes, de Albuquerque, da Gama and Dias.

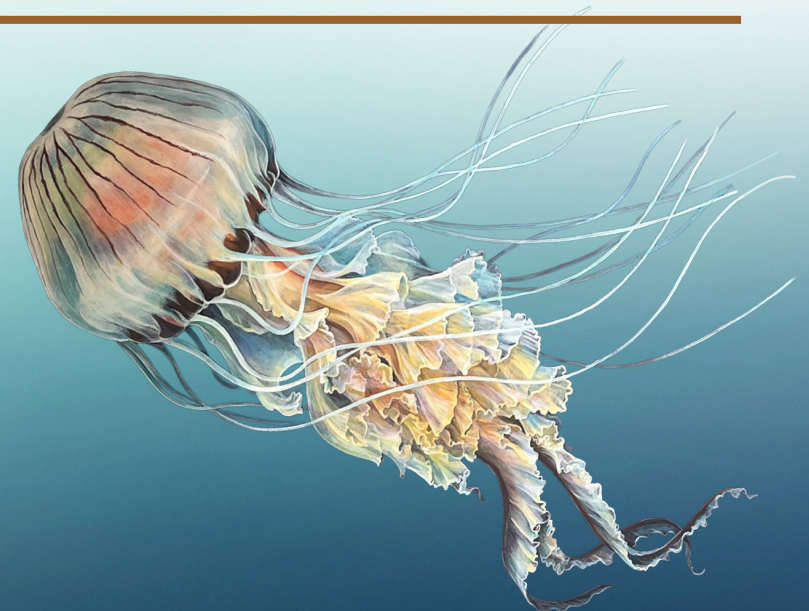
84 15:10 – 15:20 | DAWSON:

A Sea Change for Science: #BetterPublishing

15:20 – 16:00 | BREAK | Tea and coffee

16:00 – 17:00 |

DISCUSSION AND CLOSING



Day 5 | Friday 3rd July 2026

CULTURAL DAY TRIP

09:00: Depart UCC on bus

09:30: Tour of Blarney Castle & Gardens

11:30: Depart Blarney on bus

12:15: Self-guided exploration of coastal town of Cobh (& get lunch)

15:00: Depart Cobh on bus

15:30: Tour of Midleton Distillery – home of Jameson whiskey. Tour includes whiskey tasting experience.

17:30: Depart Midleton Distillery on bus to return to Cork city (UCC)

